



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

**Office of Human Resources
and Education**
Education Division

Educational Program	
Educators	Grades 5-8

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Urban Community Enrichment Program

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URBAN COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

The NASA Urban Community Enrichment Program (UCEP) is a NASA Aerospace Education Services Program specifically designed to serve middle school students in urban areas.

This three-day program is planned, coordinated, and implemented in participating schools by the UCEP team. Major activities include lectures, demonstrations, and structured classroom activities highlighting the various sciences that supplement the ongoing curriculum. In addition, workshops and other activities are offered to school personnel.

The program exposes teachers and middle school students from urban communities to interesting and broadening educational activities. Special emphasis is placed on communications, logic, and reasoning skills that are curriculum related. Technical and logistical assistance is supplied by the NASA UCEP coordinator.

The program's involvement in the nation's schools has been extensive. Since 1981, 50 systems, 704 schools, 1,425 administrators, 7,110 teachers, and 718,325 students from urban areas have benefited from UCEP activities.



In preparation for the three-day program, NASA Aerospace Education Specialists train core teachers as a team to conduct interdisciplinary aerospace activities in school districts. Superintendents, with suggestions from principals, are asked to select core teachers from schools in their districts.

The core teachers devote six weeks to working with the aerospace program in their schools, where they lead interdisciplinary teams of teachers in interactions with the principal and faculty. They also ensure that all preparations are made for implementing the aerospace programs.

The teams of teachers that work with the core teachers are selected by the principals of the participating schools. They must represent different disciplines in the school, such as mathematics, science, physical education, social studies, fine arts, and language arts. The number of teachers participating on a team is unrestricted.

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The goals of UCEP are to

Provide urban youth greater exposure to aerospace in an interdisciplinary manner

Foster direct teacher and parent involvement in the aerospace education process

Foster greater student awareness of careers in mathematics, science, and engineering

Increase teacher and community awareness of NASA resources and technical assistance programs that can be used as a supplement to the existing curriculum

Motivate students to improve their reading, writing, and mathematical skills

Raise awareness of multicultural contributions to aerospace

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NASA Educational Excellence

We involve the educational community in our endeavors to inspire America's students, create learning opportunities, and enlighten inquisitive minds.

The UCEP program
is designed to capture, channel,
and enhance the interest of
teachers and students in
science, mathematics, engineering,
technology, and geography.

Interested school systems may obtain
additional information by writing to:

**NASA Headquarters
Education Division
Attn: UCEP Program Manager
Code FE
Washington, DC 20546**

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